

Serial No. : 10/762,793
Filed : January 22, 2004

IN THE DRAWINGS:

The applicant has submitted concurrently herewith a request for approval of drawing changes in which a "Prior Art" label is added to Figures 1A-1H, 2 and 3A-3H as marked by red ink. The applicant has also submitted replacement sheets for the amended drawings.

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REMARKS

In the Office Action, the examiner rejected Claims 1-30 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Delorme et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,321,158). The applicant respectfully disagrees with the examiner regarding the interpretation of the technology disclosed by the cited Delorme et al. reference. Nevertheless, the applicant has amended the set of claims of the instant application to more clearly define the features of the present invention.

As recited in Claims 1 and 16 concurrently amended, the essential features of the present invention reside in the fact that the method and apparatus (1) retrieves information concerning the time zones and observation of daylight saving time at the current user position and the destination, (2) calculates an estimated time of arrival (ETA) at the destination based on the local time of the destination and the daylight saving time of the destination based on the retrieved information, and (3) informs the user of the ETA at the destination and a current time. The cited Delorme et al. reference does not show or suggest any of these essential features of the present invention as discussed below.

The cited Delorme et al. reference is directed to a routing/mapping information system for travel planning, travel guidance, and recording travel locations and paths during business or recreational use, particularly in regard to the linkage of small, memory-limited computing systems with personal and/or mainframe computers. With respect to the feature (1) of the

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present invention, the method and apparatus retrieves the information concerning the time zones and observation of daylight saving time at the current user position and the destination. In the office action, the examiner indicates that this feature is disclosed by the cited Delorme et al. reference at page (drawing sheet) 12, item 9. What is actually recited by the portion indicated by the examiner is as follows:

Tap the DST option if daylight saving time is currently in effect where you are. The second line displays the offset for your time zone from the Greenwich Mean Time.

Apparently, the description in the above quote is directed only to the time related to the location of the user. The first sentence is directed to the daylight saving time where the user is located and the second sentence is directed to the time difference from the international standard time at the user's location. In other words, the cited Delorme et al. reference does not show any idea concerning the daylight saving time or the local time at the destination. Since the cited Delorme et al. reference is silent about the time zone and the daylight saving time at the destination, the essential feature (1) of the present invention is not shown or suggested by the cited reference.

With respect to the feature (2) of the present invention, the method and apparatus calculates an estimated time of arrival (ETA) at the destination based on the local time of the destination and the daylight saving time of the destination based on the retrieved information. In the office action, the examiner indicates that

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this feature is disclosed by the cited Delorme et al. reference at column 6, lines 33-49. What is actually recited by the portion indicated by the examiner is as follows:

IRMIS software is constructed for user travel planning using the electronic maps presented on the desktop computer display. The IRMIS software permits user selection of a travel origin, travel destination, and desired waypoints between the travel origin and travel destination. The IRMIS software calculates, delineates and displays a travel route between the travel origin and the travel destination via the selected waypoints. The travel route is calculated according to user choice of the shortest travel route, quickest travel route, or user determined preferred travel route. As used in the specification and claims, waypoints refers to the origin and destination of a possible route and intermediate points or places along the way including major road and highway intersections, joints or turning points at connected short line segments of major roads and highways, place names situated on major roads and highways, and as hereafter described, POIs near the major roads and highways.

The description in the above quote does not show anything about the estimated time of arrival (ETA) at the destination. The description in the above quote does not show anything about the idea of calculating the ETA based on the local time and the daylight saving time of the destination based on the retrieved information. Therefore, the examiner's interpretation of the technology disclosed by the cited Delorme et al. reference is erroneous. The examiner also states that the feature (2) of the present invention is disclosed by the cited Delorme et al. reference at column 18, line 5-49, which shows the same description as that shown at page (drawing sheet) 12, item 9 noted above with respect to the feature (1) of the present invention. As discussed

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above, the item 9 at page 12 in the cited Delorme et al. reference shows nothing about the local time or the daylight saving time at the destination. Since the cited Delorme et al. reference is silent about the estimated time of arrival (ETA) or the calculation of the ETA based on the local time and the daylight saving time at the destination, the essential feature (2) of the present invention is not shown or suggested by the cited reference.

With respect to the feature (3) of the present invention, the method and apparatus informs the user of the ETA at the destination and the current time. In the office action, the examiner indicates that this feature is disclosed by the cited Delorme et al. reference at column 18, lines 5-49, which is the same as that noted with respect to the features (1) and (2) above. In short, the portion of the cited Delorme et al. reference noted by the examiner shows nothing about the local time or the daylight saving time at the destination. Since the cited Delorme et al. reference is silent about the estimated time of arrival (ETA) or the calculation of the ETA based on the local time and the daylight saving time at the destination, it does not show the idea of informing the ETA for the user. Thus, the essential feature (3) of the present invention is not shown or suggested by the cited reference.

As discussed above, since none of the essential features of the present invention is shown or suggested by the cited Delorme et al. reference, the applicant believes that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is no longer applicable to the present invention.

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In this opportunity, the applicant has amended the specification to correct the minor wording errors therein. This is to verify that no new matter has been introduced by this amendment.


Also in this opportunity, the applicant has submitted concurrently herewith a request for approval of drawing changes in which a "Prior Art" label is added to Figures 1A-1H, 2 and 3A-3H as marked by red ink. The applicant has also submitted replacement sheets for the amended drawings.

Under the circumstances, the applicant believes that the present application is in the condition for allowance, and the applicant respectfully requests that the present application be allowed and passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

MURAMATSU & ASSOCIATES

Dated: 1/3/06

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Prior art

Fig. 1A

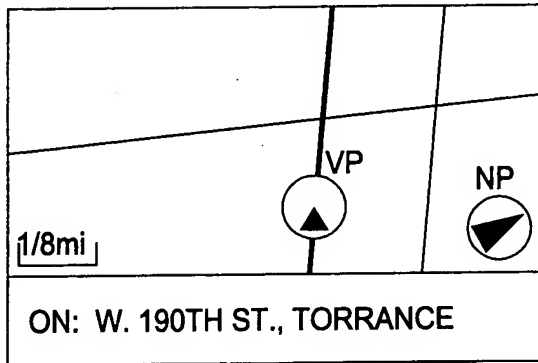


Fig. 1E

Dest	Find Destination by
Restaurants	
Airports	
Fast Foods	
Theaters	
Shopping Malls	
Grocery Stores	

Fig. 1B

MENU

Destination
Set Up
Option
Route

Fig. 1F

Fast Foods	Hit 397
Burger King	1.23mi ↘
Carl's Jr.	1.45mi ↗
Kentucky Fried Chicken	1.69mi ↑
Pizza Hut	2.21mi ↙
Del Taco	2.67mi ↗

Fig. 1C

Dest	Find Destination by
Address	
Intersection	
Point of Interest	
Map Cursor	
Recent Route	
Address Book	

Fig. 1G

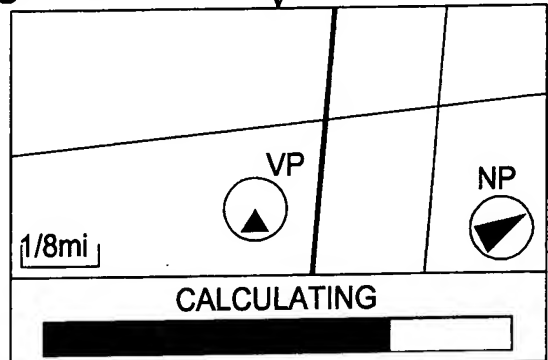
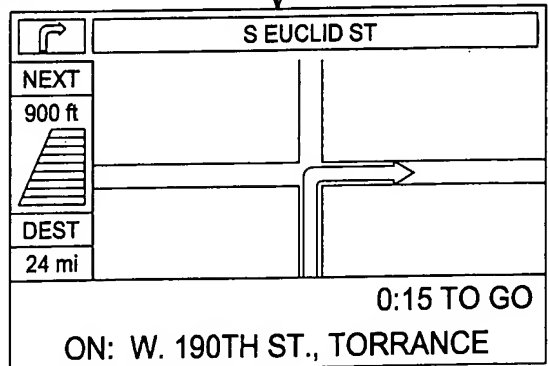


Fig. 1D

Dest	Find Destination by
Place Name	
Place Type	

Fig. 1H



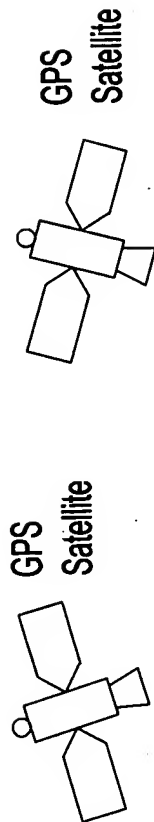
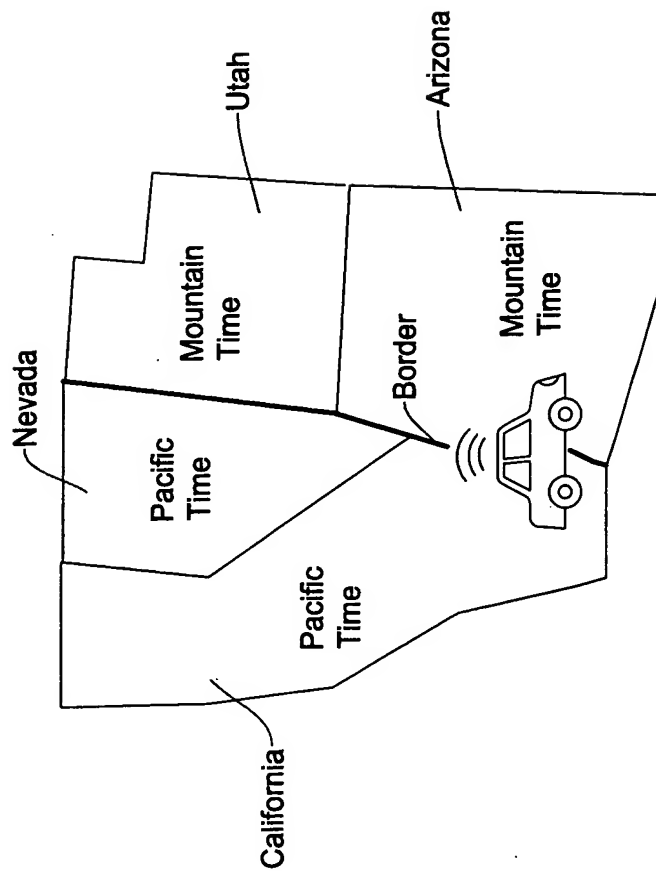


Fig. 2
(Prior Art)



Prior Art

Fig. 3A

Dest	Confirm Destination
	MSK International 12345 Apache Blvd. TEMPE, AZ (987) 654-3210
	By Quickest Route Method
	<div>OK to Proceed</div> <div>Option Menu</div>

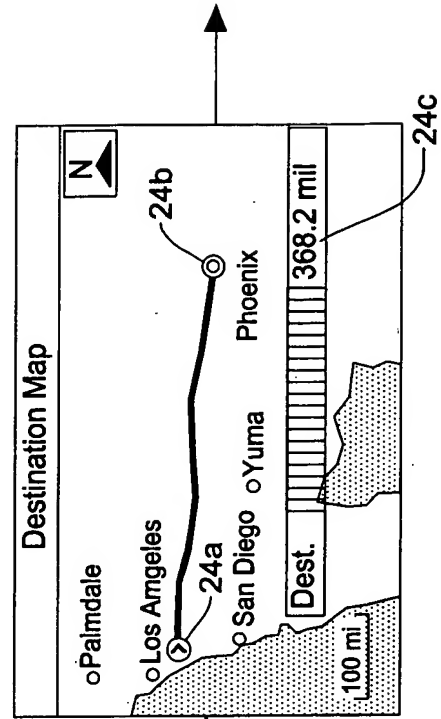
Fig. 3B

Customized Route Options
<div><input type="radio"/> Quickest Route</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Maximize Freeways</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Minimize Freeways</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Minimize Toll Roads</div>

Fig. 3C

Maximize Freeways Method
Calculating Route
<div>23a</div>

Fig. 3D



Prior Art

Fig. 3E

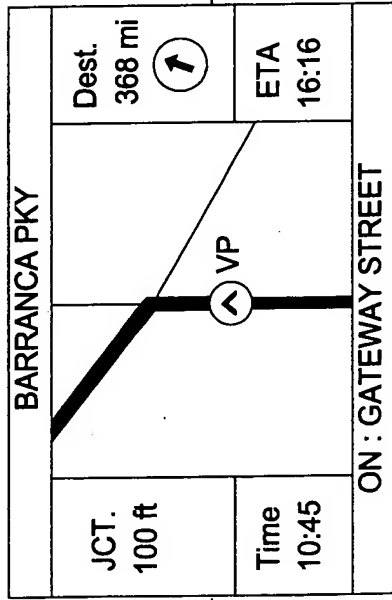


Fig. 3F

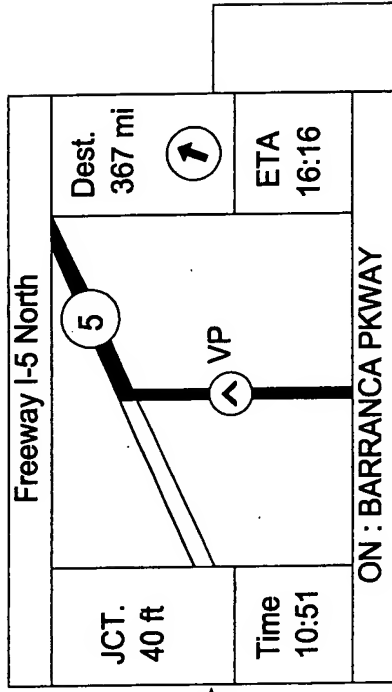


Fig. 3G

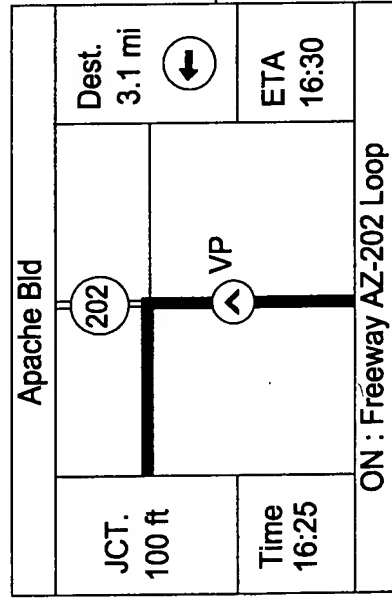


Fig. 3H

